

Tues. 21/10/1975

# Fisher seeks remedy

Wycombe Wanderers .4  
Hendon .....2

**HENDON'S** third league defeat in 11 days has sent a shudder of anxiety through the Claremont Road club, who had budgeted for a championship winning side. But what appears a costly venture — their fans were promised at the annual meeting the best team money could buy — shows signs of misfiring.

Now it's back to the drawing board for manager Bill Fisher after the 4-2 away defeat to champions Wycombe Wanderers on Tuesday. With the suspect ankles of Tony Amos again playing up, Fisher may be forced to give the former England front runner an extended rest; there are added problems with Steve Jefferies, whose recent form has drastically suffered through lack of training.

The remedy could be the switching of defender John Field to the attack, with Mickey Cooper returning at right back. Brian Stevens has also been earmarked for an urgent recall as Hendon embark on the money-spinning cup ties, starting with a London Senior encounter with Tooting and Mitcham tomorrow (Saturday), followed by the more important FA Cup engagement with Canterbury at Clare-

mont Road on Saturday week.

It was an unhappy return to Loakes Park for Hendon's Alan Phillips. The former Welsh star, who skippered Wycombe last season to their fourth Rothmans Isthmian League championship in five years, never really looked at home after helping Wycombe to their first goal in the seventh minute.

With a deceptive turn of speed, Mickey Holifield burst into the area and smashed a shot over goalkeeper Malcolm Dalrymple. As Phillips turned, almost in despair, the ball rebounded from the under-side of the bar and struck the central defender on the chest and rebounded into the net.

In a game of high-speed football, breathlessly maintained until the bitter end, Hendon hit back to equalise within seven minutes. Goalkeeper John Maskell saved, but could not hold a sharp shot from Bobby Childs and skipper Rod Haider was there to shoot into an empty net.

But Wycombe, beaten 2-0 at Hendon last month, were 2-1 ahead at the interval. Phillips was again under severe pressure, and not heading away cleanly, when his fellow countryman Dylan

Evans scored with a beautifully controlled shot.

A tremendous drive on the run by Dave Alexander, after a Paul Birdseye cross had not been cleared, put Wycombe 3-1 ahead in the 48th minute.

Amos, injured by a crippling first-half tackle, gave way to Jefferies soon afterwards.

Hendon's second goal came in the 66th minute, a splendid header by Johnny Baker, who guided in an inch-perfect cross from Dave Metchick.

Fisher had hopes of a draw when he sent on John Field into attack, with Jefferies now guarding the defence, eight minutes from time. But it was Wycombe who had the last word when a sizzling shot from Holifield sped past Dalrymple for the best goal of the game almost on time.

Two minutes earlier Wycombe's Ray Eaton was unfortunately booked for encroaching on the ball as Hendon were trying to take a quick free kick.

**Wycombe Wanderers:** J. Maskell, P. Birdseye, R. Eaton, K. Mead, D. Bullock, T. Reardon, G. Anthony, D. Alexander, D. Evans, M. Holifield, A. Horseman. Substitute: A. Price.

**Hendon:** M. Dalrymple, J. Field, G. Hand, S. Ragan, A. Phillips, R. Haider, A. Field, D. Metchick, R. Childs, J. Baker, A. Amos (withdrawn). Substitute: S. Jefferies.